

## RTM Public Works Committee Meeting - May 31, 2016

The Public Works Committee meeting was called to order at 9:17 p.m. following a joint session with F&B.

Members Present: Mark Adiletta, Frank Adelman, David Bayne, Patti Bumgardner,

James Cameron, Tom Moore, Brad Patelli, Cheryl Russell, Mike Wheeler. Jennifer Hite and Richard Poli were absent.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Adiletta at 9:17pm following a joint session with F&B at 8pm.

Item #1: Review presentation from Ed Gentile, Director of Public Works on the Darien Public Works Garage. Mr. Gentile has presented his plans for the design scope and construction considerations for the potential garage complex project and the basis for the Feasibility Study & Preliminary Concept Design. This is the second presentation from Mr. Gentile to our committee along with F&B and there were be a formal tour for all RTM member on Saturday, June 4th at 9am. Channel 79 will be filming the tour as well.

**First motion:** Consider and take action on resolution 16-15, the design and funding of the garage project. The vote was moved by Jim Cameron and seconded by Tom Moore. The vote was unanimous.

**Second motion:** Review and approve minutes from the previous meeting. The vote was moved by Jim Cameron and seconded by Frank Adelman. The vote was unanimous.

Other Business: Discussed street lighting acquisition. Mark Adiletta will contact Moderator Sarah Seeley regarding some of the committee's concern for how the LED lights capital project was accomplished without RTM support. Our committee supports the project and the long term savings our town will receive as a result of the LED project. However, the committee had concerns that it did not go through the RTM in advance and would like to see a change in the Town Charter that reflects a specific dollar amount be attached to items being purchased that would trigger RTM approval.

Motion to adjourn at 9:32pm.

Minutes submitted by Patti Bumgardner & Jennifer Hite

(See below for some specific questions and answers about the garage project between the PWC and Ed Gentile).

The Feasibility Study & Preliminary Concept Design was issued January 22nd (distributed previously). It provides more detail as to the goals of the plan. In addition below is a list of questions received which Mark Adiletta forwarded to Ed Gentile and his responses (in red).

- 1) Is better or more efficient layout of workspace w/r/t to potential, specific shared services a priority governing the Concept Design? A re-organization of some areas to be more contiguous and promote a more efficient work space was part of the design scope. Still working on the shared services concept as we already do share equipment, parts and expertise with repairs.
- 2) Though the design is for a larger facility, are certain operating efficiencies intended to be realized as determining factors, versus others which may be "try-fors". Absolutely, the need for a larger mechanics bay is glaringly obvious when you see the shop. We are looking to the future at possibly maintaining other quasi-town vehicles that are much larger than the ones we currently take care of. I say compliance should also be include in the conversation regarding the larger facility. The DEEP is very specific when is comes to the maintenance of vehicles and equipment. The need for the wash bay comes on the heels of a recent inspect by DEEP regarding our General Permit for Industrial Activities at the garage. The Garage project improvements assisted in obtaining a favorable report from the inspectors. Finally, the repair to the failing garage floor is crucial to the DPW preparing and executing its snow removal plan. Currently we cannot preload our trucks in preparation for a storm as we had in the past.
- 3) Is renewable energy (solar) or sustainability a priority? Is significantly less electricity usage and lower heating costs and objective and achievable? Is the Renewable Energy Advisory Committee looking to this and whether the Energize program has any \$ available? Yes, solar was looked at and did not achieve a high rating with its rate of return of the investment. We are looking to install high efficiency equipment and convert to natural gas for heating, cooling and hot water. There should be a reduction in energy costs per square foot realized with the implementation of the higher efficiency equipment.
- 4) Is a goal to bringing all equipment under roof to extend useful life, and save on capital costs overall? One of the major reasons for the addition is exactly that...to extend the useful life of the town assets. That includes the small and large plow truck, wood chipper, roller, compressor & bucket truck. The added mechanics bay will allow for us to work on the vehicles without displacing vehicles outside the facility into inclement weather.
- 5) ...There should be questions about the relocation of the fuel tanks and wash bay, two very important topics as well as discussion on the need for a bunk room.